

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 083585

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 83585 SENT ACTION AMMAN BEIRUT
CAIRO DAMASCUS GENEVA ALGIERS KUWAIT JIDDA DHAHRAN
JERUSALEM KHARTOUM MANAMA TEHRAN TEL AVIV TRIPOLI
TUNIS RABAT LONDON PARIS MOSCOW ROME USUN NEW YORK
NATO BAGHDAD SANAA, APRIL 24TH:

QUOTE UNCLAS STATE 83585

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL
EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING APRIL 24,
1974:

QUOTE: Q. COULD YOU GIVE US, ON THE RECORD, WHAT IS THE
BREAKDOWN AS BETWEEN LOAN AND GRANT OF THE 2.2 BILLION TO
ISRAEL?

A. YES. IN AUTHORIZING AND APPROPRIATING THE 2.2 BILLION
IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR ISRAEL LAST DECEMBER, CONGRESS
PROVIDED THAT THE PRESIDENT COULD PROVIDE UP TO ONE AND A
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HALF BILLION OF THAT TOTAL SUM IN THE FORM OF A GRANT WITH

THE BALANCE AS CREDIT. THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE AN INITIAL DETERMINATION TO PROVIDE ONE BILLION OF THE TOTAL IN GRANT AND THE BALANCE OF 1.2 IN CREDIT AT CONCESSIONAL RATES OF INTEREST.

Q. STILL ON THE AID -- IN THE PRESIDENT'S REQUEST, THERE'S AN ITEM FOR A HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS FOR NO DESIGNATED FIELD, EXCEPT THAT IT RELATES TO THE MIDDLE EAST IN GENERAL. CAN YOU GIVE ANY MORE DETAILS ON WHAT THIS COULD BE USED FOR?

A. WELL, I THINK IT'S BEING EXPLAINED -- OR IT IS EXPLAINED, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN -- IN THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE THAT THIS WOULD BE FOR REFUGEE SETTLEMENT, FOR UNFORESEEN REQUIREMENTS THAT MIGHT ARISE IN THE COURSE OF AN EMERGING PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE AREA. BUT IT'S BROKEN DOWN IN FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES RATHER THAN SPECIFIC ALLOCATIONS.

Q. COULD THAT BE FOR AID TO SYRIA AS PART OF A DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT?

A. I CAN'T SAY AT THIS POINT.

Q. IS THAT POSSIBLE?

A. I WOULDN'T EXCLUDE IT.

Q. THE SAME QUESTION WAS ASKED OF YOU YESTERDAY AND YOU EXCLUDED IT YESTERDAY. WHAT'S HAPPENED SINCE YESTERDAY TO CHANGE YOUR RESPONSE?

A. I DON'T THINK WHAT I SAID HERE IS INCONSISTENT WITH WHAT I SAID YESTERDAY.

Q. WELL, I ASKED YOU YESTERDAY AT THE BRIEFING AS TO WHETHER THERE'S ANY CONSIDERATION, ANY POSSIBILITY, THAT SYRIA MIGHT GET SOME KIND OF AMERICAN ASSISTANCE AFTER AN ISRAELI-SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT ACCORD AND YOU SAID "NO."

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A. I DID NOT. I SAID IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO SPECULATE. AND I DON'T SEE THAT WHAT I SAID HERE WAS REALLY ANY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I SAID YESTERDAY. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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